CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE
Digest

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Cut Yourself A Piece of Cake . . .

. . . Make Yourself At Home

Congratulations and best wishes to M.G.M. on its 30th Birthday.

The Digest feels, that it has a special reason to offer M.G.M. congratulations, for it is now thirty years since M.G.M. first advertised its product in The Digest. 1924-1954, and the first M.G.M. advertising which the Digest received, came from Mr. Nicholas Schenck.

The M.G.M. celebration of its 30th Birthday, becomes International in scope. I remember back to 1920, when Marcus Loew purchased Metro.

The Ed Sullivan's, Toast of The Town, TV show, Feb. 14th is said to have been seen by fifty million people, and I say that they received "an eyeful" and an "earful."

What a Show for Meteor, and what a publicity show for M.G.M., carefully staged, to keep the action maximum and the conversation minimum, and minus too many personal plugs, which would have made it sound like a commercial.

It was the shortest hour of Entertainment, I ever sat through, and all TV has to do, is to furnish shows of that grade of quality to melt even a TV opponent's "heart of stone."

But why am I talking about the bouquets which, Leo, The Lion, is receiving, wrapped up in contracts on M.G.M.'s 30th Birthday? Let Leo, The Lion, speak for himself, Mr. Leo, The Lion, spotlight, please!

"Thank you, on behalf of my sponsor, Mr. Nicholas M. Schenck, President of M.G.M., thank you on behalf of our International Ambassador, Mr. Arthur Loew, on behalf of our Vice-President, in charge of production, Mr. Dore Schary, and our Associate-producers, on behalf of my father, Mr. Howard Dietz, Vice-President, on behalf of my beloved trumpeteer, Mr. Si Seadler, our famous directors, our stars and our players, our story-writers and our music-writers, our camera experts and technicians.

"Thank you, on behalf of our counsellors, who keep my top hat polished for all occasions of Noblesse Oblige, my tailor, who always gives the right kind of an English crease to the hang of my trousers, to my costumers, who prevent me from committing a faux-pas, and know when I should wear a plain white bow tie, and not a flowing one with polka dots, with my tails (No, I have only one tail growing from the end of my spine, the tails to which I am referring, are made of black cloth, and not of me.)

"Thank you, on behalf of my barber, whose main concern is the luxuriant growth of my mane for lusty exhibitions, like Mogambo, and thank you, on behalf of Mr. Charles Reagan, who keeps my circulation good among exhibitors, sending forth a flow of cold cash, which provides a box-office heat, in which I glow.

"Speaking of box-office, thank you, my dear exhibitors, who have always distinguished between the friendly company of a friendly lion and a man-eating tiger.

"Thank you, again exhibitors, you, who have nursed me from a cub to lionhood, how I thank you!

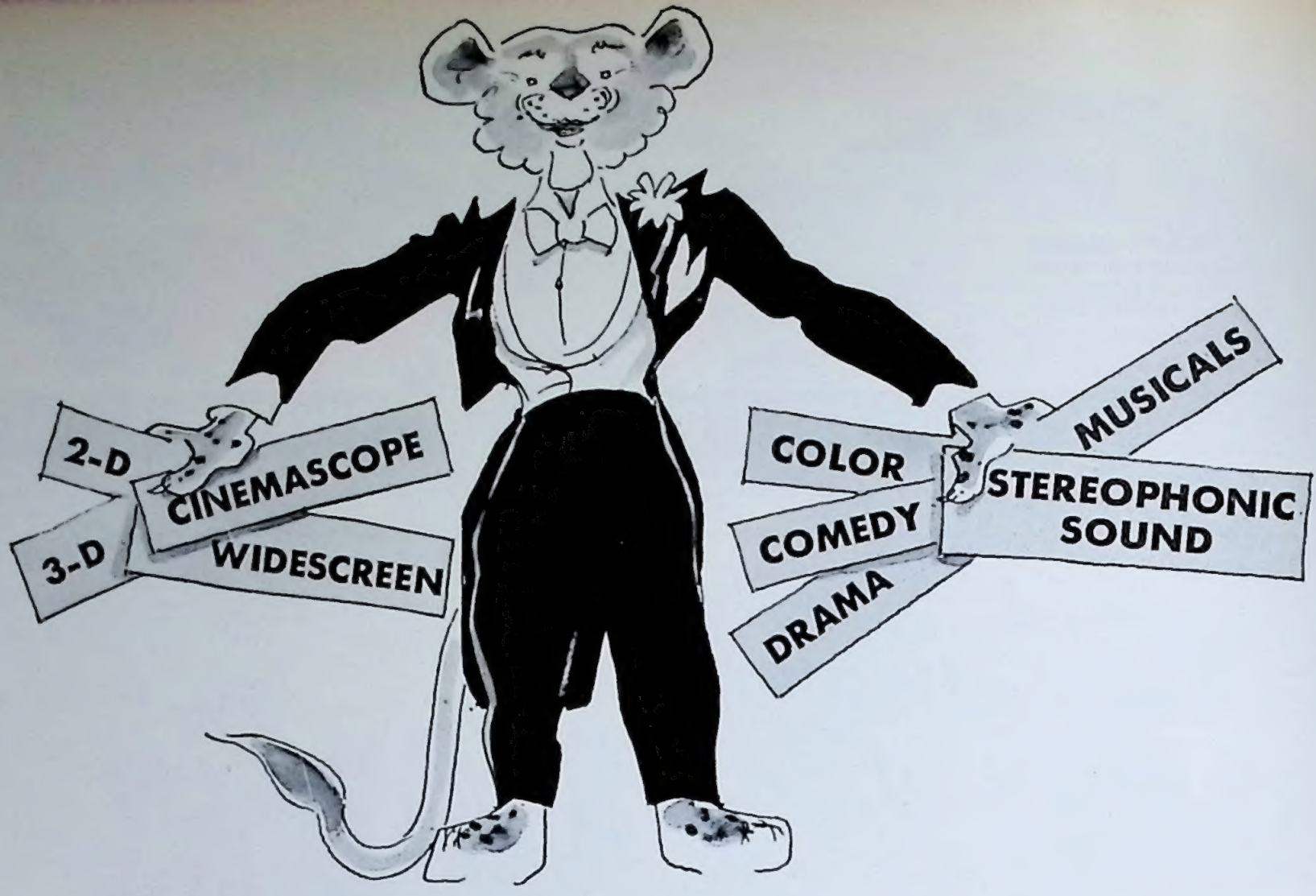
"Thank you, my dear public, which has supported me, from the day in which only my silent head was visible to you, to the days in which my body grew, and I walked on all fours.

"You will remember, the day I walked upright, the night resounded with my roars!

"Memory takes me back through our Hall of Fame, The Big Parade, The Thin Man, The Merry Widow, Mare Nostrum, Ben Hur, The Student Prince, Rose Marie, Broadway Melody, Min and Bill,

(*Continued on Page 11*)

18TH ANNUAL CONVENTION, VARIETY CLUBS INTERNATIONAL, ADOLPHUS HOTEL, DALLAS TEXAS, MARCH 22-25TH, 1954. VARIETY CLUB, TORONTO, GRADUATION DINNER, THURSDAY, FEB. 25TH, ROYAL YORK HOTEL, TORONTO



"SPEAKING OF SCOPE—
ASK US FOR ANYTHING!"

M-G-M's got product for every type of operation in this business!

While the spectacular CinemaScope sensation "KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE" (*in color magnificence—Robert Taylor, Ava Gardner, Mel Ferrer, Anne Crawford*) is packing theatres from Coast to Coast . . .

And the world's first CinemaScope Musical "ROSE MARIE" (*in color glory — Ann Blyth, Howard Keel, Fernando Lamas*) will thrill the public in March . . .

M-G-M points proudly to a wealth of entertainment for *all* theatre needs.

"THE LONG, LONG TRAILER"
In color— Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz.

"EXECUTIVE SUITE"
William Holden, June Allyson, Barbara Stanwyck, Fredric March, Walter Pidgeon, Shelley Winters, Paul Douglas, Louis Calhern.

"JULIUS CAESAR"
Marlon Brando, James Mason, John Gielgud, Louis Calhern, Edmond O'Brien, Greer Garson, Deborah Kerr.

"RHAPSODY"
Technicolor—Elizabeth Taylor, Vittorio Gassman, John Ericson.

"GYPSY COLT"
In color—Donna Corcoran, Ward Bond, Frances Dee, and Gypsy.

"TENNESSEE CHAMP"
In color—Shelley Winters.

"FLAME AND THE FLESH"
Technicolor—Lana Turner, Pier Angeli, Carlos Thompson.

"That's just a few of many!
We say it with Pictures!"

Ray Presents

I RECEIVED another letter from George Delaney, son of Mrs. Delaney of Gananoque, Ont., whom I told you was so very ill.

After I read his letter, I felt very grim, but not unhappy, as a matter of fact, I had the same kind of a feeling, which I have, when the glorious coloring of Autumn has faded into a washed-out brown, and the maple trees, on the lawn of my house, are beginning to look silent.

There is a mixed feeling of gladness, for the beauty, that has been, and the beauty and life which will come again with the Spring, and a sadness for the bare trees, during the Winter months, to which trees no birds will come to sun themselves, to gossip, to make love and to nest.

THE heart of our Show Folks, so expansive in its sympathetic response, remembered Mrs. Delaney, at the Kingston General Hospital, and she received flowers, fruit, candy, letters and cards from many members of our Industry, which George told me brought his mother much happiness.

I was happy, because I had been able to give Mrs. Delaney a few happy moments, as a result of talking about her in The Digest.

It stirred up many thoughts in my mind, as to what constitutes service and what makes service effective and permanent.

I THOUGHT of the Pulpit, the Altar of a Cathedral, of a Synagogue, a Mosque, or in a Church, and the eloquence of a preacher, or speaker, endeavoring to move us toward the Spirit of Brotherhood.

I thought of the thousands of people, who came to hear Billy Graham speak in Toronto, not on a subject of how to make a "lot of money fast", not for prizes, with which people go away loaded down with cash and other gifts, but for the comfort of hearing about the Fatherhood of God!

For that comfort, thousands lined up for hours, to hear Billy Graham, thousands came from miles away, and those, who were fortunate to get into the Coliseum, and Maple Leaf Gardens, left close to $39,000, as their contribution, in two days, for his service.

What I wish to talk about are the little kindnesses in life, such service as compared to a specialized service on a public scale, which some may use with which to measure their own Services.

NOT minimizing the importance of specialized service. what I wish to emphasize is a service which you and I can perform, a little service, daily, or weekly, or monthly, many times, which may not appear to be important, but which has the power to send Good into circulation, such as the little story of Mrs. Delaney, which inspired so many people into an act of kindness.

I am reminded of the little baby-girl, who was left, by her mother, to Show Folks, because her mother heard that Show Folks had a good heart.

IS IT not one of the mysteries of life, to know, that a poor mother, had to give up her baby daughter, so that the Heart of Show Business could be drawn to perform a great Service, the founding of Variety, to serve thousands of children, underprivileged, physically handicapped children, the lame, the blind, while thousands of other children, boys and girls, have been served, through funds which Variety International Clubs have given, for Research, in many fields of medicine and surgery.

One little baby-girl, one mother in a Divine Plan, the mother, who might have taken her baby to several Institutions, which service includes taking care of babies, the baby, who might have become another foundling among the millions in the world.

BUT that mother and baby-girl had been selected to Serve God and Mankind, and so the inspiration came to the heart of the mother, to leave the baby in a theatre to showmen.

A special theatre, one belonging to a showman, named Harris, was selected.

I remember that showman, John Harris of Pittsburgh and Harry Davis, built the first of the Nickleodeons in Pittsburgh, about 1897. Harry Davis was a member of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, and many a happy visit I had with him in the days when Sydney Cohen was President, and you could hear Al Steffes, Jimmy Walker, Pete Woodhull, Rembush Sr., Sam Pinanski and a host of others tossing verbal bouquets at each other, without removing the thorns.

I was just as handy, as any of them, at throwing bouquets, the only difference between us, I was a "schmoe", a Crusader, who never saw through the politics of some of the combatants, and their followers, many of them, who had their own particular axe to grind.

When I woke up one day, and discovered what was going on, behind the Battle-cry of Independence, I blew up, and there were particles of atomic energy flying here, there and everywhere.

HOWEVER, I received a good education in our business in those days, and made many lasting friendships, but when I think of the Committee and Board Meetings, which we had, the Resolutions which we passed, the theatres sold to producer-distributor theatre combinations, and the theatre affiliations which were made, I often wonder whether such an objective could not have been as successfully obtained without the all-night meetings, and the stormy business sessions.

This much, I do remember, also, whenever a Distributor, or Producer, or a so-called Monopolist was invited as a guest-speaker, at one of the Annual Meetings, he was listened to, no one heckled him, no one threw insulting remarks, questions were asked, and whether we were in agreement or completely disagreed with the policies as announced, we exercised good manners, which does not appear to be the prevailing custom today.

MEN are invited to speak at some meetings of Exhibitors Associations, and the speakers are treated with rudeness which is inexcusable.

In those days, running to the Government to tattle-tale, did not make the "runner" too popular, even with his friends.

Today, as soon as an Association does not appear to get its own way, it announces, that it is preparing a brief to present to the Government.

In all such presentations, what Government, in what country has solved either the Producers, or the Distrbutors, or the Exhibitors problems?

Panaceas have been legislated, such as quotas, subsidies, Separation Decrees, but how much better off, are those which looked for a benefit, today, than they were prior to such legislation?

AS for intra-industry relations, they are, in my opinion, much worse than they were in 1924 or 1926, during the days of the growing pains of big circuits, which later on produced the Battle of The Giants.

I have been following Mr. Spyros P. Skouras, President of 20th Century-Fox, in his travels, and I must confess, that I am still wondering where he gets the strength to keep up

(*Continued on Page 7*)

AS AN INDUSTRY SERVICE...20th Century-
of the industry read these messages from

ALEX MANTA

Vice-President and General Manager, Indiana-Illinois Theatres. 40 years an outstanding exhibitor and showman. Member of the Board of Directors of Allied Theatres of Indiana. Member of Council of Motion Picture Organizations (COMPO). Contributing member of Theatre Owners of America (TOA). Operator of 23 theatres in Indiana and Illinois, ranging in capacity from 301 to 2063 seats.

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SPYROS SKOURAS, PRESIDENT
20TH CENTURY-FOX FILM CORP.
444 WEST 56 ST. NYC

AS A SMALL COMPANY HAVING EVERYTHING AT STAKE IN THE THEATRE BUSINESS, WE FEEL IT'S TIME FOR OTHER EXHIBITORS IN ADDITION TO TRUEMAN REMBUSCH, WHO SUCCESSFULLY INSTALLED CINEMASCOPE COMPIETE WITH STEREOPHONIC SOUND IN THEATRES AS SMALL AS THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY SEATS, TO VOICE THEIR SUPPORT AND APPRE-CIATION OF WHAT YOU AND TWENTIETH CENTURY HAVE DONE FOR OUR INDUSTRY. AFTER SIX COMPLETE CINEMASCOPE STEREOPHONIC SOUND INSTALLATIONS WE FEEL THAT WE ARE IN A POSITION TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO HOLD FAST TO YOUR DETERMINATION TO INSIST ON PROPER PRESENTATION OF CINEMASCOPE THE WAY IT WAS DEVELOPED AND INTENDED, WITH FOUR-TRACK STEREOPHONIC SOUND. TO PRESENT CINEMASCOPE OTHERWISE IS AN IMPOSITION ON THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE BEEN SOLD TO EXPECT SOMETHING NEW AND DIFFERENT IN SOUND AND SOUND EFFECTS. YOUR COMPANY IS TO BE CONGRATULATED FOR YOUR FORESIGHT, COURAGE AND WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO HELP REVIVE A SICK BUSINESS, AND YOU SHOULD NOT BE HARRASSED IN YOUR EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN THE HIGH STANDARD OF CINEMASCOPE PRESENTATION SO VITAL TO ITS CONTINUED SUCCESS.

ALEX MANTA
INDIANA-ILLINOIS THEATRES

Fox believes it is vital that every member of two of the nation's leading exhibitors

LEO T. JONES

President, Star Theatres, Inc. For 25 years a leading Ohio exhibitor. Member of National Allied. Member of Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio and a former vice-president of ITOO. Circuit includes Star (540 seats), Upper Sandusky; Carey (329 seats); Indiana Trail Drive-In, Carey.

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W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

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CT. MOA206 UPPER SANDUSKY, OHIO 28
SPYROS SKOURAS
20TH CENTURY-FOX FILM CORP.
444 WEST 56TH ST. NYC

I HAVE JUST COMPLETED MY FIRST SEVEN DAYS OF THE ROBE WITH COMPLETE STEREOPHONIC SOUND, MIRACLE MIRROR SCREEN AND AUDITORIUM SPEAKERS AND AM HOLDING FOR ANOTHER SEVEN DAYS, THE FIRST TIME IN 23 YEARS A PICTURE EVER PLAYED MORE THAN SIX DAYS. I AM NOW CONVINCED THAT THE ONLY PROPER WAY TO PRESENT CINEMASCOPE IS BY UTILIZING ALL FOUR SOUND TRACKS THRU AUDITORIUM SPEAKERS AND THREE BACKSTAGE SPEAKERS, AND AM READY TO ADMIT I WAS WRONG IN ASKING FOR ONE-CHANNEL SOUND. I COULD NEVER PRESENT THE ROBE AS WONDERFULLY AS I DID OR GET SUCH AUDIENCE ACCLAIM WITHOUT THE STEREOPHONIC SOUND. BUSINESS WAS 525% OVER NORMAL FIRST WEEK. PLEASE ACCEPT MY HUMBLE APOLOGY FOR WRONGLY INSISTING ON SINGLE-TRACK SOUND EVEN THOUGH I ONLY HAVE 540 SEATS.

LEO T. JONES

Toronto and District

By BILL PRESS

In tabling the public accounts in the Ontario Legislature Premier L. M. Frost, as Provincial Treasurer, revealed that the income from the Hospitals Tax for the fiscal year totalled $6,667,475, this being the amount contributed by partons of theatres and other entertainments in what was formerly known as amusement tax.

At Victoria, the British Columbia government announced a move on Feb. 16 for the reduction of the amusement tax in that province where all admissions are assessed 17½ percent which is said to be the highest in Canada.

Jim Georgas of Owen Sound continued to sweep the ski championships in this province when he captured the Alpine events at Collingwood Feb. 13-14. The theatre man was followed by Red McConville of London, with Jim's brother William in third place.

Although it was produced in 1931, the gangster picture, "The Public Enemy" starring James Cagney, is only now having its release in Canada with a first-run showing at Toronto, the companion picture being re-issued "Little Caesar". "The Public Enemy" was made by Warner brothers., to be followed by "Public Enemy's Wife" in 1936.

For the return engagement of "Moulin Rouge" at popular prices, Manager N. Langston of the Odeon Theatre, London, presented every 150th lady at matinees each day with a record album set in a tie-in with Capitol Records of Canada. Stage talent is featured at the Saturday morning Movie Club show.

Foreign-language features, as well as unusual pictures from British studios, have become highly popular at a number of theatres in Hamilton.

Under its new policy, the Savoy Theatre is playing a series of Italian attractions, the latest offering including "When Love Calls," "Escape Into Dreams," "Difficult Years," "Naples Millionaire," "Broken Love" and "Reckless Cadets."

The Roxy is also featuring first runs of such pictures as "The Sky Is Red," and "Carmen." The Hamilton Cinema follows Toronto quite often with British and French pictures, one of the latest being "Valley of Song".

Official notice has been given under the Federal Companies Act by C. R. B. Salmon that application will be made to the Secretary of State of Canada for the surrender of the charter of J. Arthur Rank 16mm. Limited, Toronto.

The indications are that the legal age for adults will become 18 years instead of 21, following the suit of the Ontario Board of Moving Picture Censors for its restricted attendance classification which bars persons under 18 years of age at showings of limited films.

The Canadian Bar Association in Ontario has recommended to the Dominion Government that minors be given the status of adults on reaching their 18th birthday.

The Famous Players' Capitol Theatre, Windsor, managed by Joe Lefave, was the scene of a Sunday evening performance of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the guest soloist being James Milligan of Toronto.

KITCHENER'S CKCO-TV TEES OFF MARCH 1st

Television station CKCO-TV at Kitchener, Ont. will commence full television programming on March 1st. The station is owned by *Famous Players Corporation Ltd.* in association with the owners of radio station *CKCR* and *Carl A. Pollock*, president of *Dominion Electrohome Company* of Kitchener. CKCO-TV is operated by *Central Ontario Television* and *Eugene Fitzgibbons*, formerly supervisor of *Famous Players'* theatres in Windsor, is general manager of the new station.

Central Ontario Television received approval from the *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation* board on December 4th, 1953 and within 20 days the station was on the air with a test pattern using a 5 KW transmitter on partial power. It is expected that the station will go on full power by the end of March. CKCO-TV joined the CBC link on February 21 first. Test pattern hours are from 1 to 4 P.M. and from 7 to 9 P.M.

At the opening ceremonies the Mayor of Kitchener will cut a ribbon held by *Carl A. Pollock* and messages of congratulation will be read from the mayors of Woodstock, Galt and Guelph. Speakers at the opening ceremonies will include *David Dunton* of the CBC, *Carl A. Pollock, Eugene Fitzgibbons* and *John J. Fitzgibbons. Mr. Fitzgibbons* it is reported, will tell the TV audience that no effort will be spared to have the new station delivering into the homes in the Kitchener area, programs with enough variety to please every member of the family — programs of the same high quality that have been synonymous with *Famous Players* for the past third of a century. *Mr. Fitzgibbons* will emphasize the fact that the studio equipment is being operated by trained Canadian technicians and that the station is equipped to provide color television when it becomes available in Canada. The station is not yet equipped for "live" telecasts but the engineers expect the equipment, which is on order, will be in operation early in April.

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Editor-in-Chief

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Maritime News

HELEN CROWLEY

Famous Players will commence construction of its Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Drive-in theatre this Spring. This is expected to be the largest Drive-in theatre in Eastern Canada. It is located only about four miles from the centre of Dartmouth and is to open before the bridge is completed that will connect Dartmouth with Halifax. Dartmouth has been increasing in importance by leaps and bounds. The Imperial Oil Company is spending thirty million dollars on an entirely new oil refinery — the Irving Oil Company is investing five millions on a new refinery, and the navy will be spending somewhere around four million dollars on new buildings. The Navy will have about sixty per cent of its personnel located on the Dartmouth side of the Harbour in another three or four years. It is rumored that the population of Dartmouth by 1960 will reach close to 100,000—Dartmouth is going to be THE Industrial centre of the Maritimes. The Navy has already erected a total of forty apartment buildings (each Unit to contain about ten apartments). A private enterprise is constructing about twenty-five separate apartment buildings on the fringe of Dartmouth. A large Shopping Centre has just been completed opposite the Dartmouth end of the Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge.

Famous Players 'Paramount' theatre, Moncton, N.B., is installing CinemaScope and was scheduled to open on Feb. 19th with The Robe.

Mr. George D. Walker, proprietor of the theatre at New Waterford, has been re-elected head of the Victoria Order Branch at the annual meeting held recently in Kentville, N.S., where Mr. Walker makes his home.

Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Bernstein are spending a vacation in Florida.

Mr. Tom O'Rourke, Gaiety Theatre, Monto, N.B., was elected chairman of the Blood Donors Committee at its annual meeting. Mr. O'Rourke is a son of the late Mr. T. J. O'Rourke, well-known Maritime Province Exhibitor who passed away little more than a year ago.

Ray Presents

(*Continued from Page 3*)

such a pace, which is, to put it mildly, an imposition on his good health.

Not for several years has Mr. Skouras let up on the pressure. Ever since I saw him in action, at the Chicago meeting, for the Movies Are Better Than Ever Campaign, Mr. Skouras has been selling his company's product to the Film Trade, and its motion pictures to the public.

DURING those years, he has gone through the Separation Decree upheaval, and the battle with stockholders.

Battles are the enemy of good health, and undermine the well-being of an individual, as they do the well-being of a nation.

It is Mr. Skouras' continued battles, which leaves us all, who battle, irrespective of victory, so frustrated, and which has a corroding and dangerous effect on our good health.

I am of the opinion that Mr. Spyros Skouras, as President of 20th Century-Fox, merits a respect, and consideration in no small measure.

I THINK, it is an expression of bad manners to invite him, or an executive of his company, to address a meeting, and then heckle and insult the speaker.

I am not concerned with how much anyone disagrees with him, they have a right to disagree, but they have no manners, and are in the same class as political stooges, when they insult their guest speaker.

There has been a tendency in our Industry, among some of its Associations, to "gang up" on invited speakers. Such conduct is not an example of Freedom of Speech, of Independence, nor is it brave, wise or heroic. In my opinion it is cheap exhibitionism and accomplishes a minus.

EXHIBITORS have learned, that they can obtain phenomenal box-office results, with certain pictures which have been produced in CinemaScope, and with Stereophonic Sound.

They have, also, found business very good with Wide Screen, and incidentally, with pictures without these added assets.

Mr. Skouras and his company have invested a staggering amount of money, in an invention, used in the production of their pictures. The invention is theirs, the pictures are theirs, have they any rights in respect to their properties?

I BELIEVE they have, and I believe, that since they took the gamble with their money, not with yours, nor with mine, and if they lose their shirt, it will be their shirt, not yours, nor mine, your shirt and my shirt will still remain on our backs, then why are, some of us, assuming the attitude of Dictators, and why are some of us, so insulting to them?

It is evident, that 20th Century-Fox wishes to remain in business.

Despite the huge sums of money which 20th Century-Fox can earn with a limited number of pictures, in a limited number of theatres, I do not believe, that this is the objective of 20th Century-Fox, because it is a Boomerang Policy.

CUTTING off seventy-five percent of your potential market, on a CinemaScope and Stereophonic invention, is too much of a gamble for any company to take, as a permanent policy, when it has already been proved, that big pictures without these accessories, can make big money.

CinemaScope and Stereophonic Sound, with CinemaScope pictures, are making very big money fast. If that is what an exhibitor desires, to make big money fast, with 20th Century-Fox CinemaScope pictures, then the only answer is to equip your theatre to play what you want.

ALL this talk of eliminating Stereophonic Sound, or mixing a process, sounds childish to me. If it is good enough to want badly enough to fight for it, it is good business to get it without a fight, by buying it.

No one is forced to buy, you can operate your business without CinemaScope and Stereophonic Sound, you can operate your theatre without CinemaScope pictures, as a matter of fact, you were operating for many years, before you ever heard of CinemaScope.

PERSONALLY, I think that CinemaScope and Stereophonic Sound combined is a wonderful entertainment medium,

The Robe is still a vivid memory. I think, that every theatre which can have it, should have it, as for Drive-Ins, these theatres which have no walls, which stand in the midst of acreage, which give you a feeling of wide open spaces, why do they require CinemaScope and Stereophonic Sound?

I have not seen a Drive-In theatre equipped for the presentation of CinemaScope pictures.

Perhaps, if I saw such a presentation, I might change my viewpoint. But irrespective of such consideration, has Mr. Spyros Skouras the right to say how his property is to be used?

If his company has invested fabulous millions, in an invention to enhance the earning power of his company's pictures, what right has anyone to amputate, emasculate, or depreciate his properties?

PARAMOUNT OFFERS 11 INCLUDING SIX THREE-REELERS

Among the eleven features which *Paramount* will release from February, through to April, will be six three-reel pictures.

A. W. Schwalberg, President of *Paramount Film Distributing Corp.,* in announcing the three-reelers as featurettes stated, that they were produced as a special series, to round out a program for houses which played single features and double bills. "As the features are increasing in length, and becoming bigger in importance, these subjects are ideally suited to complete a program."

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Academy Awards, March 25th

Nominations for the Twenty-sixth Annual Awards of the *Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences* have been announced by *Charles Brackett*, President of the *Academy*.

The nominees were selected for outstanding achievements in all branches of motion picture production during the past year by 13,075 members of the industry. They include actors, actresses, directors, writers, musicians, and technicians, as well as feature productions, short subjects, and documentaries.

Screening of all pictures represented by the nominees will be held at the *Academy Award* Theatre from February 20th through March 14th for the approximately 1,600 *Academy* members who will vote for the final winners. They will receive their ballots on March 3rd, with the voting closing on March 16th.

The ballots will be tabulated by *Price, Waterhouse & Company*, and the results will be announced March 25th, when the Annual *Academy Awards* presentation program is held at the *RKO Pantages* Theatre in Hollywood.

TOTAL NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS BY STUDIO
(Includes Shorts and Documentaries)

STUDIO	PICTURES	NOMINATIONS
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer	17	32
20th Century-Fox	11	18
Paramount	6	23
Columbia	4	16
Warner Bros.	4	7
United Artists	4	6
Universal-International	2	2
Louis de Rochemont Assoc.	1	2
Republic	1	1
Joseph Burstyn	1	1
Cinerama Productions Corp. (1 Feature - 5 Shorts)	1	1
Disney	6	6
U.P.A. (Shorts)	2	2
Encyclopaedia Britannica (Short)	1	1
U.S. Army Signal Corps (Short)	1	1
Mayer-Kingsley (Short)	1	1
British Information Service (Short)	1	1
I.F.E. Releasing Corp. (Short)	1	1
Canadian Natl. Film Board (Short)	1	1

PICTURES WITH TWO OR MORE NOMINATIONS

From Here To Eternity	Columbia	13
Roman Holiday	Paramount	10
Lili	MGM	6
Shane	Paramount	6
Julius Caesar	MGM	5
The Robe	20th Century-Fox	5
The Band Wagon	MGM	3
Calamity Jane	Warner Bros.	3
The Moon Is Blue	United Artists	3
Stalag 17	Paramount	3
Above and Beyond	MGM	2
Call Me Madam	20th Century-Fox	2
Hondo	Warner Bros.	2
Knights of the Round Table	MGM	2
Martin Luther	Louis de Rochemont Assoc.	2
Mogambo	MGM	2
The President's Lady	20th Century-Fox	2
Titanic	20th Century-Fox	2
The War of the Worlds	Paramount	2

Variety Village Graduation Ceremonies

The Officers, Directors and their special committees of Variety Club, have completed arrangements for the Graduation Ceremonies and Dinner, in the Concert Hall, Royal York Hotel, Thursday, Feb. 25th, of class 1953-54, Variety Village, Vocational School for Boys.

Reception in the Ballroom at 6.30 followed by dinner at 7.45 p.m. This Annual Ceremony is an Event, not only for members of the Entertainment world, but for Government Officials and Humanitarians.

The program is always arranged with care, and this year, it reads as follows:

GRACE
Reverend George J. Cherrier, O.B.E.

TOAST
Her Gracious Majesty
The Queen

CHAIRMAN
Chief Barker
William A. Summerville, Jr.

Mayor, Toronto
Allan A. Lamport

Controller of Finances, Province of Ontario
Dr. Chester S. Walters, C.P.A., C.A.

SOLO

President, Ontario Society for Crippled Children
H. H. Popham

President, Famous Players Canadian Corporation, Limited
J. J. Fitzgibbons, C.B.E.

GRADUATION CEREMONY
J. Arthur Robertson
Principal, Variety Village

SOLO

International Executive Director Variety Clubs International
Col. William McGraw

Sam Glasier (*20th-Fox*) working with the committee has arranged for the *CBC*, to provide radio coverage on the night of the affair, as well as a special program, filmed at *Variety Village*, showing the *Village* at work on *CBC-TV*. The *TV* program, which will include the Graduation Ceremony, will be shown at 6 p.m. Toronto time, Feb. 28th, at Toronto, Ottawa, London and Montreal, and March 7th, same time, in Sudbury and Vancouver.

All of us who have attended these Annual Graduation Ceremonies, have come away refreshed in spirit, with the knowledge, that goodness is a dominant force in the world and that the milk of Human Kindness flows from an Eternal Fountain.

MGM RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL LINE UP

Radio City Music Hall, New York, currently playing M.G.M.'s Knights of the Round Table, will have four M.G.M. pictures to follow, The Long, Long Trailer, Rhapsody, Rose Marie and Executive Suite.

SO LONG, WALTER WILSON

May your years now be spent with the beautiful roses which have been a fragrant hobby of yours for a quarter of a century. Walter Wilson, in his 78th year, and after 42 years in Show Business in Western Canada, retires as Manager of the Famous Players Paramount Theatre, Edmonton, Alta. He is succeeded by his son, Bill.

CONSOLIDATED THEAS. DECLARE DIVIDEND

Alex Adilman, Treasurer of *Consolidated Theatres* of Montreal has announced that the company will pay a dividend of 13 cents per share, in Canadian funds, Class A Common Shares, payable Mar. 1.

NFB SHORT STEALS THE HEADLINES

The Toronto Telegram captioned this photo with: "Cockroach Battle, NFB Version. Housewife Mrs. Jim Brown (Roxanna Bond) flails at a cockroach in her kitchen with a wet towel in this scene from criticized National Film Board film, Farewell Oak Street, a short dealing with the Regent Park housing project."

The Toronto Star and Globe and Mail each gave prominent display to the release of the short, which opened last week at the Famous Players' flagship, Imperial Theatre, as a result of remarks made by a Liberal M.P. in Ottawa. Mildred Stein, NFB representative in Toronto had previously arranged for a photo story and reviews and was quick with her follow up when the story broke, on opening day.

FIGHT NIGHT!

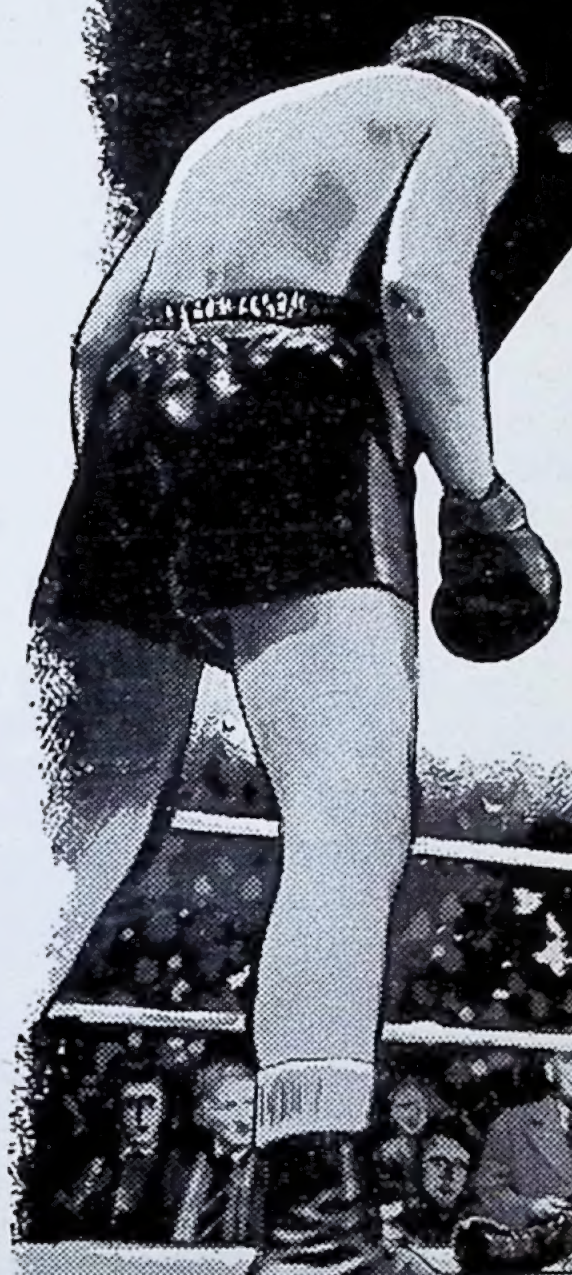
WOMEN'S LIPS INSPIRE MEN'S FISTS IN THE THRILLING HARD-HITTING DRAMA OF THE FIGHT GAME

THE J. ARTHUR RANK ORGANIZATION PRESENTS A MICHAEL BALCON PRODUCTION

JACK WARNER
ROBERT BEATTY
MAXWELL REED
JOAN COLLINS
KAY KENDALL
BERNADETTE O'FARRELL in

"THE SQUARE RING"

WITH **BILL OWEN**



DANNY FELTON ...veteran "handler" — a good friend if you fought straight.

JIM "KID" CURTIS ... ex-champ, on the gruelling comeback road... meets both victory and tragedy.

RICK MARTELL ... handsome, athletic ... a good fighter, but crooked.

FRANKIE ... Rick's flashy girl friend ... threatened if her boy friend dares to win.

EVE ... the "Kid's" ex-girl friend ... she makes her own devastating comeback.

J. ARTHUR RANK FILM DISTRIBUTORS (CANADA) LTD.

VANCOUVER NEWS

By JACK DROY

Benny Chechik of Myers Enterprises at present in Australia, is reported to be interested in building the first Drive-in theatre down-under at Melbourne and Sydney. A second outdoor theatre is being planned for the Penticton fruit town, now serviced by the F-P Capitol and the Pines Drive-in theatre. Oliver in the same area, will also have a Drive-in theatre this summer.

Howard Tillman, father-in-law of Gerry Sutherland, Odeon B.C. manager and well-known hotelman, died in Vancouver, age 67.

"Mogambo" is the best in town, with "Martin Luther" on its fourth week also still doing well.

Doug White, former office manager for Warner Bros., is now with the Myers Enterprises and will be in charge of the Delta Drive-in at Richmond, Tillicum Drive-in, Victoria and the Bay theatre in Vancouver.

Odeon Circuit switched two of their local district managers, Ernie Sauer from the Odeon, West Vancouver to the Odeon, North Vancouver and Bob Fraser from North to West Vancouver.

Johnny McTaggart, Orpheum assistant manager, resigned to enter other business and was replaced by Harry Hargraves, former film booker at the Opera House in Blackpool, England.

Don MacKenzie, formerly with General Theatre Supply Company, has joined Perkins Electric and will be in charge of sales for the prairie provinces for P-E with headquarters at Calgary.

Dennis Brewer, local projectionist is owner of a Vancouver cartage company.

Tom Boudreau, manager of the Odeon, Abbotsford, was in town and said business was brisk in the Fraser Valley section.

Prairie News

BRUCE PEACOCK

Jonas Applegarth, 33-year-old Cree Indian from the Hobbema Reserve who went to Hollywood to try out for a part in the Warner Bros. CinemaScope film, "Battle Cry," has been successful, according to word reaching Calgary. He is now on location in Puerto Rico. Director Raoul Walsh, who had Applegarth work for him in Banff last summer during the filming of "Saskatchewan," wired the Indian to come to Hollywood and try out for the role of an Indian in "Battle Cry."

City council at Red Deer, Alta., has given final approval for the construction of a $200,000 theatre by Purnell and Sons, of Red Deer, who purchased the site for $11,500. The theatre will seat between 700 and 900.

TRADE headlines

Warners capitalize on 3-D most effectively, as an example, House of Wax, The Beast From 20,000 Leagues, and now in 3-D and Warnercolor, Phantom of the Rue Morgue.

●

Leonard Goldenson stated, that he is convinced Howard Hughes will put RKO Pictures Corp. on its feet as one of the most important producing companies on the coast.

●

Al Lichtman, 20th Century-Fox General Sales Manager, insists that Stereophonic Sound be used with CinemaScope pictures. "No Stereo, no CinemaScope pictures."

●

Vic Nowe, manager Odeon-Carlton, Toronto, presented an art exhibit of paintings by the Professional Engineers Assn. of Ont. in the foyer of the theatre, which attracted considerable attention.

●

I. H. Allen of Astral Films meets with special success with his company's picture, The Sinner, now in its 6th week at the Odeon-Hyland, Toronto.

●

United Amusement Corp. present The Robe at the Granada, Sherbrooke, Que., having installed Miracle Mirror Screen, CinemaScope with Stereophonic Sound Feb. 10th.

●

University and Eglinton theatres Toronto, to open March 5th with Fox's CinemaScope epic "The Robe."

●

Parents Magazine Award to Warner Bros. for The Eddie Cantor Story; and Nov. Blue Ribbon Boxoffice Award to So Big, for the producer Henry Blanke and author of screen-play John Twist, for the best Nov. family picture.

●

China now permits the import of films which it considers are of a "progressive" character. The total foreign imports must not exceed the total number of Chinese productions.

●

Eric A. Johnston, President of M.P.A.A., sent a request letter to five exhibitors' associations to participate in an Arbitration Conference, "starting from scratch." The meeting to take place within 60 days.

●

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Arias, announced the marriage of Joan Edith to Mr. J. Gordon, Sunday, Jan. 31st. Mr. Arias is a veteran importer and exploiter of films in the Latin and South American territories and in other foreign markets of the world.

CAPITAL STORY

By BILL McLAUGHLIN

Austin Cross, whose daily column Across-Town with Cross, is a popular feature in the Citizen, took on movie reviewing with the opening of Sadko, the Soviet-made film at the Elmdale Theatre. Austin followed this chore up with his opinion — a most favorable one — of the Eddie Cantor Story at the Odeon Theatre. There are at least half a dozen movie reviewers on the Citizen. Perhaps the appearance of Austin Cross as a critic means a change in editorial policy. Bill Gladish used to concentrate on movie reviewing for the Citizen, but now devotes all his time to the farming industry of the Ottawa Valley and his stamp column.

Use This Information As Your Guide on Release Dates

TORONTO

IMPERIAL
Money From Home (Para.) Technicolor with Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis.

SHEA'S
Second Week. Botany Bay (Para.) Technicolor with Alan Ladd.

UNIVERSITY & EGLINTON
Second Week. Forever Female (Para.) with William Holden.

NORTOWN
Easy to Love (MGM) Technicolor with Esther Williams.

ODEON-CARLTON
Third Week. Miss Sadie Thompson (Col.) Technicolor with Rita Hayworth.

HYLAND
Sixth Week. The Sinner (Astral) with Hildegarde Neff.

UPTOWN
Second Week. Quo Vadis (MGM) Technicolor with Robert Taylor.

LOEW'S
The Long, Long Trailer (MGM) Color with Lucille Ball.

TOWNE CINEMA
Ninth Week. Julius Caesar (MGM) with an all star cast.

DOWNTOWN
Public Enemy (Cardinal) and Little Caesar. (WB).

MONTREAL

PALACE
Knights of the Round Table (MGM) CinemaScope and Technicolor with Robert Taylor.

LOEW'S
Here Come the Girls (Para.) Technicolor with Bob Hope.

PRINCESS
His Majesty O'Keefe (WB) Technicolor with Burt Lancaster.

CAPITOL
Blowing Wild (WB) with Gary Cooper.

AVENUE
Hobson's Choice (JARO) with Charles Laughton.

KENT
Fourth Week. Innocents in Paris (Cardinal) with Alastair Sim.

ALOUETTE
Le Prince au Marque Rouge.

ST. JOHN

PARAMOUNT
Kiss Me Kate (MGM) Technicolor with Kathryn Grayson.

CAPITOL
Hondo (WB) 3-D and Warnercolor with John Wayne.

KENT
The Country Parson.

STRAND
Slaves of Babylon (Col.) with Richard Conte.

CALGARY

CAPITOL
Beneath the 12-Mile Reef (20th-Fox) CinemaScope and Technicolor with Terry Moore.

PALACE
Take the High Ground (MGM) Ansco Color with Richard Widmark.

GRAND
Tonight We Sing (20th-Fox) Technicolor with David Wayne.

UPTOWN
Miss Sadie Thompson (Col.) Technicolor with Rita Hayworth.

TIVOLI CINEMA
The Conquest of Everest (JARO) Technicolor.

STRAND
Gun Fury (Col.) 3-D and Technicolor with Rock Hudson.

VANCOUVER

CAPITOL
Beneath the 12-Mile Reef (20th-Fox) CinemaScope and Technicolor with Terry Moore.

ORPHEUM
Second Week. Mogambo (MGM) Technicolor with Clark Gable.

STRAND
Take the High Ground (MGM) Ansco Color with Richard Widmark.

VOGUE
Tonight We Sing (20th-Fox) Technicolor with David Wayne.

PLAZA
Gun Fury (Col.) Technicolor and The Fake (UA).

PARADISE
Jack Slade (AA) with Mark Stevens.

STUDIO
Fourth Week. Martin Luther (IFD).

INTERNATIONAL CINEMA
Innocents in Paris (Cardinal) with Alastair Sim.

BEST YEARS HOLDS OVER

Samuel Goldwyn's, Best Years of Our Lives, Re-Issue, is being held over in four important city spots, Washington, Boston, New Orleans and Denver, as reported by Charles Boasberg, RKO General Sales Manager.

SAMUEL PINANSKI RE-ELECTED

Samuel Pinanski, President ATC, has been re-elected as a member of the Board of the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Co.

Rita Hayworth is still doing her stuff in Miss Sadie Thompson at the Elgin Theatre. Now just concluding her second big week and the shady lady known as Sadie will likely go into the third. Also a hold-over is The Holly and the Ivy, British comedy-drama at the Little Elgin.

Your Capital Story reporter goes all out in favor of the Digest's suggestion that the Canadian Motion Picture Industry consider making the Trade Show a bigger and better event for the general public. In the Journal's Twixt Studio and Screen column of Saturday, February 27, we recalled the great success of the annual shows held by American producers, distributors and accessory dealers during the years between 1916-1920 at New York, Boston and Chicago.

Second CinemaScope production, How To Marry A Millionaire, now at the Capitol Theatre. Business was good on opening day and is expected to continue so throughout what is to be a two-weeks' run.

Fred Leavens has nothing further to say following last week's announcement that National Theatre Services would take over the operation of the Glebe Theatre as of March 1st. Built some 30 years ago by the late P. J. Nolan and operated by the Nolan interests as the Avalon, the theatre is located in the Glebe residential district. Famous Players and Odeon operated it before the Bessin family bought the property from the Nolan interests. Casey Swedlove was associated with Hye Bessin in presenting stage shows at the Glebe, but NTS supervisor Fred Leavens says that no plans have been made to set the theatre's future policy.

A Piece of Cake

(*Continued from Page 1*)

The Champ, Grand Hotel, Smilin' Through, Dinner at Eight, Rasputin and The Empress with the three Barrymores, etc.

"M.G.M. searched the heavens and the earth for stars, we tapped the Milky Way, and then came a business recession. Depression cast a dark shadow upon our whole Industry, but my sponsor, the President, Mr. Nicholas Schenck said, within hearing distance of me, 'There is nothing wrong with this Industry, that good pictures cannot cure', to which I gave a roar of approval, shaking the very stars, out of their clustered seclusion, onto the M.G.M. lot.

"I had not intended to make a speech, when The Digest called on me, but since we are celebrating M.G.M.'s 30th birthday, which between you and me is L.T.L.'s (Leon The Lion's) Birthday, I can't eat my cake without sharing it with you, so cut yourself a piece of cake, and make yourself at home, with the friendly lion of your friendly company."

Thank you, Leo, The Lion, it seems like old times to see you on The Digest's front cover, which you covered for about twenty years.

TO MAKE YOUR BOXOFFICE SING!

sit down sweetie, you're rockin' the screen!

NO GAL WAS EVER SWEETER AND THE FLEET WAS NEVER FLEETER!

THE GOBS COME IN WITH A WAD OF DOUGH AND BACK A DREAMBOAT IN A BROADWAY SHOW!

JANE POWELL

GORDON MacRAE

"3 SAILORS AND A GIRL"

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

Seaful of Songs!

Oceans of Gals & Gags!

WARNER BROS.' ☆ HIP-SWINGIEST, IT'S-GOT-EVERYTHINGIEST MUSICAL SHINDIG OF 'EM ALL!

This is one of the ads in the campaign now ready

WITH GENE NELSON · SAM LEVENE · GEORGE GIVOT · VEDA ANN BORG · AND INTRODUCING JACK E. LEONARD

SCREEN PLAY BY ROLAND KIBBEE & DEVERY FREEMAN · Musical Numbers Staged and Directed by LeRoy Prinz · Musical Direction by Ray Heindorf · PRODUCED BY SAMMY CAHN · DIRECTED BY ROY DEL RUTH

FROM WARNER BROS., OF COURSE!